



Gifted and Talented



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kruse Elementary School



The Kruse staff believes that gifted and talented students need appropriate instruction all day, not just during certain grades or a few hours each week. That's why Kruse teachers, instructional paraprofessionals and the GT site coordinator work together to meet the needs of GT students through differentiation in the regular classroom, advanced classes and enrichment opportunities. Classroom teachers at all grade levels differentiate instruction to meet the needs of learners, giving gifted students the opportunity to work with like-ability peers and for individualized instruction.



18

Average GT students

338

Total student enrollment



Programming Opportunities for Gifted Learners

Kruse offers a compacted math pathway for students entering fourth grade in which they complete three years of math in two years (4th and 5th grades). Qualifying students in 4th and 5th grades receive replacement instruction in an advanced math class. Fourth graders complete all of 4th grade and half of fifth grade standards. Students in 5th grade complete the second half of 5th grade standards and all of 6th. This is rigorous and accelerated and may or may not be appropriate for all identified gifted students. In addition, Kruse offers a math enrichment for third graders identified in math. This group meets several times a week during math WIN (What I Need) time.

Site-Based Gifted and Talented Services Overview



Gifted and Talented site coordinator:

Emily Vangermeersch | GT Coordinator evangerm@psdschools.org 970-488-5672

Identification / ALPs / Academic services support

Overview of the GT program at this school



Kruse GT Program:

- Provides advanced learning experiences with appropriately higher learning standards.
- Provides social and emotional guidance.
- Provides differentiation for all learners in appropriate areas of academic strength.

Advanced Learning Plan process at this school



Gifted math students set their academic and affective goals with their math teacher and revisit goals in January and May. The gifted site coordinator assists with monitoring goal progress. Gifted reading students set their academic and affective goals with their reading teacher and the gifted site coordinator assists with monitoring goal progress.

Programming and enrichment opportunities for GT students during school



For current programming opportunities, please visit the Kruse website. <https://kru.psdschools.org/>

Enrichment opportunities:

- Small-group instruction with similar-ability peers for reading instruction,
- K-5 A variety of differentiation strategies; examples include book groups based on interest and ability, independent grammar study, and individualized or small-group math enrichment.
- Ability grouping for math for advanced learners in 3rd grade.
- Math compacting for grades 4th and 5th.

Enrichment opportunities for GT students before or after school



- Chess Club
- Wellness Club
- Art Club
- Spanish Club
- Book Bowl
- Robotics Club

Affective programming for GT students



Classroom teachers work on a social emotional learning program called Second Step. Counseling services are always available both individually and in small groups on an as-needed basis.

Grade-specific GT services



3rd grade reading: These students will set goals and receive differentiation in their regular classrooms based on student needs.

4th/5th grade reading: These students will set reading goals with homeroom teachers and receive differentiation within their regular classrooms.

3rd grade math: These students will meet for math enrichment during part of their math class when they complete grade-level instruction and classwork.

4th/5th grade math: These students will be considered to join a compacted math pathway in the spring and fall. The criteria involve multiple data points and being identified as gifted is NOT the only criteria to enter this pathway.